

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph numbered [0004] with the following paragraph:

[0004] Pursuant to the present invention, a single container transfer conveyor of a suitable length has a roller track is formed thereon by aligned track sections respectively underlying wheeled crane units of ~~the~~ a wheeled conveyor to which such track sections are respectively connected for transfer of containers therebetween. The central crane unit features a prepping platform through which containers of different sizes on its roller track section may be adjustably positioned in alignment under the spreader bar of a marine terminal crane for vertical transfer of containers to and from the ~~conveyor~~ central crane unit after the containers are delivered to and from a pair of end crane units through which parallel spaced track lanes are established on opposite sides of the ~~central~~ prepping platform on the central crane unit for passage of trucks with containers thereon. Containers are transferred, by laterally slid able spreaders, between vehicle ~~the~~ trucks and the roller track sections associated with the end crane units without obstruction.

Please replace paragraph numbered [0010] with the following paragraph:

[0010] Referring now to the drawings in detail, FIGS. 1 and 2 illustrate through side and bottom elevation views a wheeled conveyor ~~loader~~ 10 before transfer thereto of three containers 12, 14 and 16 as shown positioned thereon in FIGS. 3 and 4, illustrating the conveyor ~~loader~~ 10 at a location ~~in~~ underlying ~~alignment~~ with a spreader bar 18 depending from a conventional type of marine terminal crane ~~as~~ generally known in the art. The conveyor ~~loader~~ 10 as shown in FIGS 1-4 has two end crane units 20 and 22 interconnected by a prepping platform type of central crane unit 24. ~~Each of such~~ The conveyor crane units 20, 22 and 24 are respectively provided with ~~has~~

a roller track section 26, 28 and 30 respectively secured to the bottom portions of the crane units 20, 22 and 24 thereof in alignment ~~with each other~~ so as to establish a common roller path 31, as denoted in FIG. 2, along which movement of containers may be guided during travel between the conveyor crane end units 20 and 22 to and from the central crane unit 24.

Please replace paragraph numbered [0012] with the following paragraph:

[0012] Each of the end crane units 20 and 22 also has a stack spreader 52 slidably suspended from the its top frames 32 and 34 by a spreader support elements 54 which are slidably displaceable laterally along the width of the top frames 32 and 34 between track bars 56 as shown in FIG. 3. Thus, the container 12 attachable to the spreader 52 may be displaced between a position overlying the truck 50 and the roller track 26 supported by wheels 58 on the truck 50 as shown in FIGS. 3 and 4 to establish the roller track travel path 46 or 48 in laterally spaced relation to each other as shown in FIG. 2.

Please replace paragraph numbered [0013] with the following paragraph:

[0013] The top frame 40 of the central crane unit 24 has a pair of alignment hopper guides 60 as shown in FIGS. 1, 3 and 4 adjustably mounted thereon through which containers of different size, such as the smaller container 14, may be vertically transferred by the crane spreader bar 18 between a marine terminal crane and the roller track section 30 associated with the central crane unit 24. As shown in FIGS. 2 and 3, such roller track section 30 has recesses 62 at selected locations thereon to accommodate lock installation and removal.

Please replace paragraph numbered [0014] with the following paragraph:

[0014] It will be apparent from the foregoing description that the conveyor ~~loader~~ 10 provides two truck lanes along the travel paths 46 and 48 laterally spaced from the common track roller path 31 for use of the three crane units 20, 22 and 24 so as to substantially reduce the time required for transfer of different sized containers to and from a truck chassis positioned under the top frames 32 and 34 of the crane units 20 and 22. The central crane unit 24 is positioned in alignment under the crane spreader bar 18 by movement of the conveyor ~~loader~~ 10 aided by use of the hopper guides 60. Furthermore, the two longer containers 12 and 16 of a 40-foot length for example, may be off-loaded at the same time from the roller track path established formed by the three track sections 26, 28 and 30. A different length container 14, of a shorter 20-foot length for example as shown in FIG. 3, may also be handled with the central crane unit 24 positioned as the prepping platform.

Please replace the paragraph under the ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE with the following paragraph:

A wheel supported conveyor ~~loader~~ having a central platform crane section disposed between opposite end crane sections is positioned in underlying relation to ~~a the~~ container holding spreader of a dockside terminal crane for transfer of containers to and from the chassis of trucks moved into loading positions without obstruction along parallel spaced passage lanes formed in the end crane sections. Sections of a roller track are respectively associated with each of the conveyor crane sections for displacement movement of the containers laterally between therebetween along a common track path and extending between the truck passage lanes.

Container spreaders are slidably mounted on the end crane sections effecting said for lateral displacement of containers between the truck passage lanes and the common roller track path.